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ACORN

Virginia Ambulatory Care Outcomes Research Network

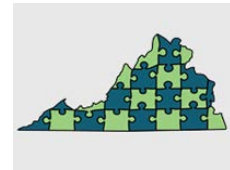


Department of Family Medicine and Population Health receive 2014 STFM Research Paper of the Year Award

In April, members of the Department of Family

Fairfax Family Practice Centers focus on patient engagement and medical home activities

In the April 23rd issue of the Chicago Tribune, Fairfax Family Practice Centers (FFPCS), was featured as part of an article focusing on Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH). The 12 FFPCS offices were referred to as leading the forefront of the growing trend of PCMH – organizing all facets of a patient’s care, performing a wide range of medical services, and offering emotional as well as clinical support. The author hailed patient centered medical homes as a means to improve quality of care provided to the community, provide cost saving, improve population-based health outcomes, and reduce excessive services. FFPCS has been a leader in ACORN research for nearly 20 years. The offices participate in both the My Preventive Care (MPC) and Informed Decision Making (IDM)



A Common Wealth of Public Health and Primary Care Information

Contributed by
Barbara A. Wright, MLS, AHIP

Practitioners in many areas of Virginia have little or no access to the high quality medical research without incurring lofty expenses, while

Medicine and Population Health received the 2014 Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (STFM) Best Research Paper of the Year award for the paper titled "Interactive Preventive Health Record to Enhance Delivery of Recommended Care: A Randomized Trial." This study was done with ACORN practices located primarily in Northern Virginia and tested the effectiveness of an interactive preventive health record (IPHR) linking patients to their clinicians' record. Results of the study proved a significant increase in preventive services, especially for those who used the IPHR. Congratulations to the team on a job well done!

[Read Paper Here](#)

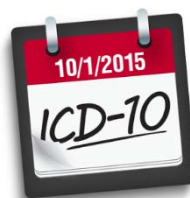


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[STFM Research Paper of the Year Award](#)

module studies. Research activities have supported their patient-centered medical home activities.

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ICD 10 Delay Brief

Congress passed legislation on April 1st to postpone the conversion to ICD 10 for a year, making the date for compliance October 1, 2015. As part of the larger bill, Protecting Access to Medicare Act of 2014 (PAMA) which some have called the "Doc Fix," this delay is in response to the lack of agreement on the repair of the Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula and would prevent a 24% cut to physician Medicare reimbursement.

The postponement provides a temporary relief for clinicians, especially those who are not prepared for the expensive change that is expected with this conversion. PAMA does not address the need to reform physician payment. This is likely the reason why stakeholders, including the American Hospital Association, American Health Information Management Association, and others have been lobbying to vote down the bill.

providers associated with universities have vast online repositories of the most up-to-date information. A new website, [A Common Wealth of Public Health and Primary Care Information](#), helps address this disparity.

Designed to serve public health and primary care, in addition to the spectrum of clinical and health related fields, the **Common Wealth** site is a partnership between VCU's Tompkins-McCaw Library for the Health Sciences and the Capital and Rappahannock Area Health Education Centers (AHECs), directed by Karen Purcell and Jane Willis, respectively. AHECs work "to

[Fairfax Family Practice Patient Engagement](#)

[A Common Wealth of Public Health Information](#)

[ICD 10 Delay Brief](#)

[Upcoming Events and Resources](#)

[MCV Physicians - Options for Assistance](#)

[VCU Family Medicine Mental Health Workshop](#)

[ACORN Current Studies](#)

Helpful Links

[Interactive Preventive Health Record Article](#)

[Chicago Tribune Article](#)

[Obesity Toolkit](#)

[PCMH Resource Center](#)

[OpenNotes Toolkit](#)

Sources: American Medical Association <http://www.ama-assn.org/ama/pub/physician-resources/solutions-managing-your-practice/coding-billing-insurance/hipaahealth-insurance-portability-accountability-act/transaction-code-set-standards/icd10-code-set.page>;

The Advisory Board Company <http://www.advisory.com/Research/Financial-Leadership-Council/At-the-Margins/2014/03/ICD-10-delay-makes-it-through-the-senate>.

Image: www.ambulancebillingservices.com

MCV Physicians - Options for Assistance to ACORN Practices

Practices today are being affected by many competing demands: the Patient Centered Medical Home, the new landscape that the Affordable Care Act brings, and the pressure to join an Affordable Care Organization, among others. Though the verdict on these programs varies from person to person, they hold several things in common: time, money, and resources are scarce but essential for any of these things to be accomplished. As we know, each of those things is limited in supply. Many practices are working to keep their doors open while

bridge the gap between academic health centers and the community.”

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Upcoming Events and Resources

Community Connections: Linking Primary Care Patients to Local Resources for Better Management of Obesity
[Read More](#)

PCMH Resource Center

Click [here](#) to visit the patient centered medical home (PCMH) Resource Center web site.
[Read More](#)

New Quality Tool: The OpenNotes Toolkit

The OpenNotes Toolkit provides



VCU Family Medicine - Mental Health Residency Workshop

Contributed by Judy S. Gary, MEd

Practices have expressed a need for more focus and energy on mental health. Efforts are being made to assess the state of the mental health system of Virginia when dealing with emergency issues, especially in response to the incident with Senator Creigh Deeds and his son. Recently, the Student Family Medicine

dealing with the impact of these changes. Clinicians and their teams are simply trying to serve their patients without having to compromise patient care or worse, close their doors.

Camille Washington, ACORN Practice Advocate, recently had the opportunity to meet with Daniel Friend, Ph.D., CMPE, administrator for MCV Physicians. Dan shared some of the ways that they are partnering with practices that may open up resources and new perspectives amidst these challenges.

Management Services Option Currently In Development	Affiliation	Merger
Assessing ability to provide management services to those not currently affiliated	Physicians / staff become MCV-P employees	Physicians / staff become MCV-P employees
Options: General administration, revenue cycle management, contracting, risk and insurance management, IT, nursing, and access to clinical trials	MCV-P "rents" assets and sublease facilities for a period of time	MCV-P purchases assets and assumes leases of practice, all at a fair market valuation provide

step-by-step strategies to help health care providers implement open notes in their health systems.

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Call for Abstracts - Summer Institute on Quality Improvement, Aug 5-8, 2014, San Antonio, TX
[Read More](#)

New Funding Opportunity: Disseminating and Implementing Evidence from Patient-Centered Outcomes Research in Clinical Practice Using Mobile Health Technology (R21)
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ACORN Current Study Updates

Redesigning Diabetes Work

Association (SFMA) had the fortune to participate in a clinical workshop hosted by a VCU affiliated family medicine residency.

SFMA members expressed interest in mental and behavioral health within the context of family medicine. Dr. Richard Hoffman, Program Director, Chesterfield Family Medicine Residency, readily responded. In consultation with Nancy MacConnachie, Ph.D, Licensed Clinical Psychologist, Ms. Amy Daubenspeck, Residency Coordinator, the faculty and residents, the residency program hosted an amazing learning experience for the medical students. Following a brief overview, students rotated through exam rooms in pairs to interview simulated patients. Faculty and residents served as patients with scenarios drawn from real patient encounters.

Sample encounters included a middle aged woman with depression, a man with OCD, a woman with anxiety issues, and an adolescent with a presenting problem that appeared to be behavioral in

		d by a third party
Provided at fair market value	Fair market valuation conducted by third party at initiation and end of period	MCV-P does not purchase accounts receivables nor assume liabilities

Assistance varies based upon the expressed preference and need of each practice. In some cases where practices have joined the health system, compensation has increased, recruitment of clinicians increased, and malpractice costs were reduced. If you are interested in this opportunity or would like more details regarding the information provided, contact Dan Friend at: dfriend@mcvh-vcu.edu or call 804-827-8400.

Processes for Population-Based Primary Care

[Read More](#)

Implementing Personal Health Records to Promote Evidence-Based Cancer Screening

[Read More](#)

An Interactive Preventive Health Record to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening

[Read More](#)

Understanding Patient Preferences for Informed Decision Making

[Read More](#)

What Do Vulnerable Patients Want in Publicly Available Health Care Consumer Reports?

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nature, but was a result of her birth control medication. Following the rotations, Dr. Hoffman facilitated a debriefing with Dr. MacConnachie underscoring the value of family physicians in caring for patients with mental health concerns. Feedback from the workshop was overwhelmingly positive and SFMA members appreciated the opportunity for such a relevant experience.

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Virginia ACORN Practice Member

Our mailing address is:

Virginia Commonwealth University
830 East Main Street, 6th Floor
PO Box 980101
Richmond, VA 23298

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Comments and feedback are welcomed and encouraged. If you or your practice would like to share information about your quality improvement and research activities or have other input, contact Camille Washington at 804.827.3403 or orcfwashington@vcu.edu.

If you would like to provide a suggested topic or comments regarding the ACORN Clinician Perspective, go to <https://redcap.vcu.edu/rc/surveys/?s=Gv9cXAh46K>.

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Fairfax Family Practice Centers continued...

A member of the MyPreventiveCare Patient Advisory Board, Joe McDonald, was interviewed about his perspectives as a patient of FFPCS for the article. Joe highlighted that using FFPCS' patient health

record (MyPreventiveCare) allows everything to be “right at my fingertips.” He receives alerts for colonoscopies and other screenings through MPC. At the core of these successful tools, Joe emphasizes the importance of his physician taking the time to get to know him and the one on one personal relationship he has with his doctor. In his role on the MyPreventiveCare Patient Advisory Board, Joe and eleven other patient members help to direct the design of MyPreventiveCare and the research supporting its ongoing development.

To review a copy of the full article, [Click Here](#).

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A Common Wealth of Public Health Information continued...

The *Common Wealth* website was developed with the insight of an advisory committee of public health and primary care professionals, some also serving as VCU faculty members. Relevant subject areas were identified by VCU librarians, rendering access to free evidence based information for those seeking information throughout the state.

VCU Librarian and project manager Barbara Wright believes this website provides “equal and easy access to important medical information that is all free and reliable.” The website’s “How To” section provides online assistance in utilizing these resources.

To access this resource, Go to [“A Common Wealth of Public Health and Primary Care Information.”](#)

This project was funded in part with federal funds from the National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, under Contract No. HHS-N-276-2011-00004-C with the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

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Community Connections: Linking Primary Care Patients to Local Resources for Better Management of Obesity

Click [here](#) to access a new toolkit that is intended to help primary care practices: (1) determine and evaluate what accessible and affordable resources exist in their community for patients struggling with obesity and/or prediabetes; (2) establish a productive relationship with community partners so that each party benefits, as well as the patients; (3) work with community partners to develop a bidirectional referral process that integrates directly into their existing patient flow; and (4) enhance engagement strategies with patients so that the referral process becomes a meaningful conversation with increased potential for patient activation.

This toolkit was prepared by:

The State Networks of Colorado Ambulatory Practices and Partners (SNOCAP-USA)

Elizabeth E. Stewart, Ph.D., M.B.A., Healthy Living & Sunflower Trails Sunflower Foundation: Health Care for Kansans

Neta Taylor-Post, H.B.O.R., B.A., YMCA of Greater Providence

Laura Nichols, M.S., SNOCAP-USA

Elizabeth W. Staton, M.S.T.C., SNOCAP-USA

Andrew Schleuning, B.S., Kansas City University of Medicine & Biosciences

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PCMH Resource Center

Click [here](#) to visit the patient centered medical home (PCMH) Resource Center web site. This web site provides policymakers and researchers with access to evidence-based resources about the medical home and its potential to transform primary care and improve the quality, safety, efficiency, and effectiveness of U.S. health care. The PCMH Research Methods Series, posted on the “Evidence and Evaluation” sub-page of this web site, may be of particular interest and can be accessed by clicking [here](#). This series is designed to “expand the toolbox” of methods used to evaluate and refine PCMH models and other health care interventions.

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New Quality Tool: The OpenNotes Toolkit

The OpenNotes Toolkit provides step-by-step strategies to help health care providers implement open notes in their health systems. The toolkit also offers tips for both patients and clinicians on maximizing the benefits of open notes. The toolkit is divided into the following sections: Why implement open notes at your institution?; How will open notes work for your institution?; What do open notes look like at other sites?; Tools for clinicians; Tools for patients and public communications; and Tools for researchers. This toolkit was developed by Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center; Geisinger Health System; and University of Washington, Harborview Medical Center. Click [here](#) to access this tool, and click [here](#) to view a summary of this tool on the AHRQ Innovations Exchange website.

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Call for Abstracts - Summer Institute on Quality Improvement, Aug 5-8, 2014, San Antonio, TX

Transforming healthcare through quality improvement and patient safety initiatives is a national priority with a focus on advancing healthcare improvement through research. Clinicians, Educators and Researchers are invited to submit abstracts on their quality improvement efforts for podium and poster presentations at the 2014 Summer Institutes on Quality Improvement conference. This conference is sponsored by the Improvement Science Research Network (@theISRN). To learn more about the conference and to submit your abstract, [click here](#).

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New Funding Opportunity: Disseminating and Implementing Evidence from Patient-Centered Outcomes Research in Clinical Practice Using Mobile Health Technology (R21)

This Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) invites applications for developmental research projects on using mobile health technology (mHealth) to facilitate the dissemination and implementation of findings from patient-centered outcomes research (PCOR) into clinical practice. The purposes of this FOA are to develop and evaluate the effectiveness of novel approaches that use mHealth tools to enable the timely incorporation and appropriate use of PCOR evidence in clinical practice. Letters of Intent are due June 20, 2014, and applications are due August 4, 2014, by 5:00 pm local time of applicant organization. [Click here](#) for more information.

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ACORN Current Study Updates

Redesigning Diabetes Work Processes for Population-Based Primary Care

Short Study Title: Supporting Practice Adoption of Registry Based Care or SPARC

Purpose: To evaluate the effectiveness of a multi-faceted organizational change intervention focused on diabetes registry adoption.

Update: Pilot testing of the tablet-based chart audit tool and active recruitment of practices in the Richmond metro area for study participation is ongoing.

Implementing Personal Health Records to Promote Evidence-Based Cancer Screening

Purpose: To learn how practices engage patients to provide tailored, patient centered, preventive care recommendations, educational materials, resources and tools to inform and activate patients.

Update: Finalization of study site recruitment is occurring along with ongoing technical integration of MyPreventiveCare (MPC) into Cerner and Epic. Assembly of the patient and clinician stakeholders to assist guidance of the MPC advances and study design continues in addition to content updates in MPC.

An Interactive Preventive Health Record to Increase Colorectal Cancer Screening

Short study title: My Colorectal Cancer Screening or My CRCS+

Purpose: To develop an effective, interactive, web-based tailored decision aid tool within a personal health record that promotes informed decisions and increase colorectal cancer screening.

Update: Formative research continues to learn what patients deem important for tailored intervention materials focused on colorectal cancer screening.

Understanding Patient Preferences for Informed Decision Making

Short study title: An Informed Decision Making Module for Cancer Prevention Screenings or Informed Decision Making (IDM)

Purpose: To explore patients' preferred approach to cancer screening using an interactive website about informed decision-making preferences, study the assistance offered by clinicians, its congruence with patient preferences, and effect of website exposure on conversation and decision outcomes.

Update: In the final stages of completing Phase II of fielding the IDM survey. Phase III will begin on May 15 with all eligible patients to receive an email invitation for this module. Continued progress is being made on audio-recording office visits. More than 300 patients have currently completed the survey.

What Do Vulnerable Patients Want in Publically Available Health Care Consumer Reports?

Short Study title: Health Care Consumer Reports

Purpose: To make recommendations for consumer reports for Type 2 Diabetes by engaging vulnerable populations' perceptions of their needs. Currently in the analysis phase of the study.

Update: Vulnerable patients with type 2 diabetes have been found to desire basic information about diabetes, its self-management and especially diet. The comparative physician profiles in consumer reports are less of interest as most of these patients like their current physicians and are not interested in finding another physician.